

## Message Text

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44

ACTION SPM-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 OIC-04 IO-14 SWF-02

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 HEW-08 CEQ-02 H-03 SS-20

NSC-07 USIA-15 EUR-25 DRC-01 EB-11 COME-00 /163 W

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R 290903Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1100

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON/SPOP/UNWPC

SUBJECT: WORLD POLULATION CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 161933

1. DURING JULY 24 CALL ON DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS, SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, HAMOUND SHOULFI, HE INFORMED ME THAT SYRIAN WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE BUCHAREST WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE BY SYRIAN MINISTER OF PLANNING, MUSTAFA HALLAJ. HE WILL BE ACCOMPAINED BY DR. AHMAD RAJAI, DIRECTOR OF CENSUS DEPARTMENT IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE.

2. WE KNOW LITTLE ABOUT EITHER MAN, HALLAJ IS A FRENCH-SPEAKER AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE A GOOD WRITER PARTICULARLY OF PLAYS. SHOULFI ADMITTED THAT EH DOUBTED THA HALLAJ KNOWS MUCH ABOUT THE SUBJECT OF POPULATION CONTROL, BUT NOTED THAT RAJAI IS CONSIDERED TO BE SYRIA'S EXPERT ON POPULATION MATTERS. HE IS AAMERICAN TRAINED AND SPEAKS ENGLISH.

3. CONCERNING SYRIA'S ATTITUDES AND POSSIBLE ROLE IN THE CONFERENCE, WE WOULD LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT THE SYRIAN AITHORITIES CONSIDER SYRIA TO BE UNDERPOPULATED AND HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AN INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR LARGE FAMILIES. IN ANY EVENT,

GIVEN IMPROVING SYRIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS, I BELIEVE THAT THE AMERICAN DELEGATION SHOULD MAKE AN EFFORT TO CULTIVATE THE SYRIANS WHO I THINK WILL BE GENERALLY COOPERATE AND OPEN-MINDED KEEPING IN MIND, HOWEVER, THE SYRIAN BIAS IN FAVOR OF LARGE FAMILIES. IN THIS CONNECTION, I PROVIDED SHOULFI WITH NAMES AND TITLES OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION AND URGED HIM CONVEY TO THE SYRIAN DELEGATION AMERICAN WILLINGNESS TO BE OF HELP AT THE CONFERENCE.

SCOTES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POPULATION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974DAMASC01512  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Film Number:** D740205-0327  
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**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SPM  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** STATE 161933  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** WORLD POLULATION CONFERENCE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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